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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/595,816	05/12/2006	Ralf Elting	112740-1137	7151
29177	7590	10/17/2008		
BELI., BOYD & LLOYD, LLP P.O. BOX 1135 CHICAGO, IL 60690			EXAMINER WILLIAMS, ARUN C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2838	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			10/17/2008	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/595,816

**Applicant(s)**

ELTING ET AL.

**Examiner**

ARUN WILLIAMS

**Art Unit**

2838

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/4/2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 May 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. **Claims 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Nierescher et al.(Nierescher), USPAT6,204,632 in view of Aso, USPAT6,048,228**

As for claim 10, Nierescher discloses and shows in Fig. A charging cradle for charging mobile communication terminals, comprising: a housing (16), said housing comprising a guide shaft (14) ; a connector (28) comprising large-surface contact areas, wherein said connector is inserted into said guide shaft to provide contact between the large-surface contact areas and said spring tongues of said contact springs (99); and an opening (70) in said housing, wherein said opening provides access for mating points on a mobile terminal to couple to said contact points of said contact springs.

Aso differs from the claimed invention because he does not explicitly disclose contact springs being coupled on one end to spring tongues and at the other end to contact points

Aso discloses and shows in Fig. 1 a contact springs (2) being coupled on one end to spring tongues (2E) and at the other end to contact points (2A)(Abstract)

Aso is evidence that ordinary skill in the art would find a reason, suggestion or motivation to have contact springs (2) being coupled on one end to spring tongues (2E) and at the other end to contact points (2A)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Nierescher by a contact springs being coupled on one end to spring tongues and at the other end to contact points for advantages such as providing stable electrical connection (col.1, line 38) , as taught by .

As for claim 11, Nierescher shows in Fig. 6 holders (208) formed within said housing (10') upon which said contact springs are mounted.

As for claim 12, Nierescher shows in Fig. 6 a power supply component (12'),

provided within a single housing and coupled to said connector (22) for providing power.

As for claim 13, Nierescher shows in Fig. 6 the power supply component is coupled to an AC power plug.

As for claim 14, Nierescher shows in Fig. 1 said connector (28) is substantially flat and said large-surface contact areas are arranged on a forward area of said connector.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 7/7/2008 have been fully considered but are now moot in view of the new grounds of rejection necessitated by amendment.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ARUN WILLIAMS whose telephone number is (571)272-9765. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs, 6:30am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, AKM ULLAH can be reached on 571-272-2361. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2838

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Arun Williams  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2838

/A. W./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2838

*/Bao Q. Vu/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2838  
October 12, 2008*